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U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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The Silvio J. Mollo Butlding One Saint Andrew's Plaza New York, New York 10007

January 8, 2008,

BY FAX

The Honorable Alvin K. Hellerstein United States District Judge Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

Re: United States v. Frank Rodriguez

07 Cr. 845 (AKH)

Dear Judge Hellerstein:

I write to confirm that the next pretrial conference (or plea) in this matter is scheduled for January 29, 2008 at 4pm.

The Government also requests that the Court exclude time until January 29, 2008. The Government submits that such exclusion is warranted pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 8161(h)(8)(A). Specifically, the ends of justice outweigh the best interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial because it affords the defendant the opportunity to receive effective assistance of counsel in connection with ongoing plea discussions. I received a message from Mr. Aiello last night indicating that he consents to the Government's request.

Very truly yours,

MICHAEL J. GARCIA United States Attorney

Bv:

William J. Harrington

Assistant United States Attorney

212-637-2331

cc: Ronald Aiello (by fax)
Counsel for the defendant